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CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

CIA/DCI/WHIZWH 741016

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

State Department review completed

ROUTING	1		4		7		10	
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ITEM NO: WH-3

DATE: 36 OCTOBER 1974

SUBJECT: MILITARY ACTIVITY IN PEKING

US LIAISON PERSONNEL OBSERVED ABOUT TWO COMPANIES OF TROOPS ENGAGED IN SIMULATED FIRING PRACTICE ON THE GROUNDS OF THE GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE ON OCTOBER 32. WHILE SMALL UNITS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED CONDUCTING MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN PARKS NEAR THE GREAT HALL, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SUCH ACTIVITY HAS BEEN REPORTED ON THE GREAT HALL GROUNDS. THE ACTIVITY MAY BE RELATED TO INCREASED TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF AT LEAST ONE BARRACKS AREA IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE CITY, AND AN INCREASED IN AIR TRAFFIC AT A MILITARY AIRFIELD WEST OF PEKING.

THE ACTIVITY MAY BE RELATED TO THE AFTERMATH OF THE CELEBRATIONS OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC.

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